

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company
Docket Nos. D.T.E. 02-24 and D.T.E. 02-25
Responses to the Department's Third Set of Information Requests

Request No. DTE 3-14:

Refer to Schedule JHA-1, at 19. Please explain why land clearing and rights of way should be subject to a depreciation charge.

Response:

The depreciation charges relate only to other than land owned in fee, i.e., to the cost for clearing and for easements. It has been our experience most easements are not granted in perpetuity. The right ceases when the utility no longer uses the property for its lines or whatever use was specified.

Further, the FERC and many state regulatory bodies allow the depreciation of clearing and land rights.

Person Responsible: James H. Aikman